

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-36 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-22 are amended, and new Claims 23-36 are added by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 7, 8, 15, and 22 were objected to. Claims 1-6, 9-14, and 16-21 were allowed.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Regarding the objection to Claims 7, 8, 15, and 22 as being in improper form because of multiple dependent claim format, it is noted that these claims were amended to not use improper multiple dependent format in the preliminary amendment filed with the present application on June 22, 2000. The current listing of claims also reflects the amendments from the preliminary amendment filed June 22, 2000. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that objection be withdrawn.

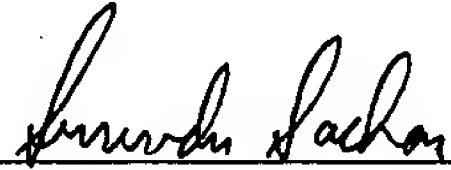
Further, Claims 1-22 are amended to correct minor grammatical informalities and to better conform to U.S. claim drafting practice. The Abstract is also amended to better conform to U.S. patent practice. It is believed no new matter is added.

In addition, new Claims 23-36 are added to set forth the invention in a varying scope. In particular, new Claims 23-36 are similar to Claims 9-22 but are written to not use means-plus-function terminology. New Claims 23-36 are believed to be allowable at least for similar reasons as Claims 9-22.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment this application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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